

Drought Mini Update

Summary

- Over the past few weeks, above average rainfall in the southern and central part of the state has resulted in the receding of the drought to the north. Abnormally dry and drought conditions still remain in approximately 30% of the state, with the worst conditions in Coos County and a small section of Grafton County.
- While drought conditions are improving, in comparison to streamflows and soil moisture, groundwater levels lag behind in recovery. In addition, during the growing season, most rain received goes to vegetation and evaporation or runs off, rather than recharging groundwater supplies. What this means is, while in some areas the grass is green, the rivers are flowing, and lakes levels are high, groundwater levels or well supplies are most likely still lower than usual. How low? NHDES staff is currently conducting monthly monitoring of its 31 well sites and next week will release findings. Stay tuned for next week's update.
- The forecasts for the next seven days is for 1" to 2" of rain, with the heaviest rain being in the north, where it is needed.

Fun Facts:

- In Concord, this month has been the wettest July on record. So far, Concord has received 11.26". The average norm is 3.37".
- During a single day this month, up north, the Androscoggin River hit record low flows, while rivers in the south were hitting record high flows.

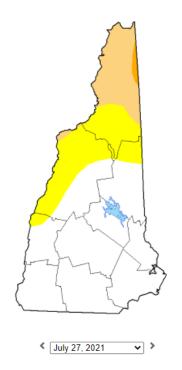
Drought Conditions

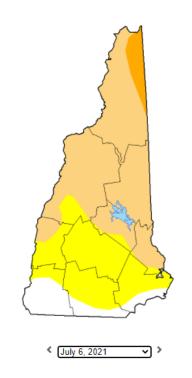
U.S. Drought Monitor

Since the beginning of July, drought conditions have receded north. Currently drought designation is as follows:

- 0.73% of NH is experiencing severe drought (D2).
- 13.36% of NH is experiencing moderate drought (D1) conditions.
- 32.49% of NH is experiencing abnormally dry conditions.
- 65.7% of NH is experiencing normal conditions.







Regional Forecast - <u>National Weather Service Forecast Discussion</u> Precipitation and Temperature Outlooks - <u>NWS Climate Prediction Center</u>

Visit the NHDES Drought Management Webpage

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